



# Community Engagement Plan

Valcour Clinton Windpark

NYSERDA RESRFP24-1

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## Bid Facility Background

Clinton Windpark (“Bid Facility”) is a 108 MW, wind facility, constructed in 2008 by Noble Environmental Power. The Windpark, part of a six-Windpark portfolio, was acquired by AES from Cogentrix in November 2021, with the intention of pursuing a repower. The Bid Facility has been in operation for 15 years, therefore the equipment is nearing end of life. The Project will be repowered, existing turbines will be decommissioned, and new turbines will be built.

This facility reduces carbon dioxide emissions by an estimated 224,714 metric tons each year, producing enough electricity to power approximately 46,311 homes annually. Repowering will ensure continued, significant economic benefits to the local community via HCA (Host Community Agreements) and PILOT (Payments in Lieu of Taxes) agreements within the Town of Clinton in Clinton County, NY.

## Key Contacts

Valcour Clinton Windpark (“the Bid Facility”) has identified the following key contacts as of Q3 2024.

## Authority Having Jurisdiction

The AHJ is the Town of Clinton Town Board. These and other locally elected officials are listed below. Contact information was pulled from the 2024 Clinton County Roster of Officials Updated 06/07/2024. The Town of Clinton office Address is 23 Smith St, Churubusco, NY 12923.

The town council representing the host community within the Bid Facility Area was identified by review of town and county boundary maps and all council members are considered stakeholders. Points of contact (POC) for the AHJ will be the Town Supervisors and the Town Clerks. Bid Facility notices will be addressed to the Town Supervisor.

## School District

The Bid Facility is located in the town of Clinton, Clinton County, New York. The taxing school district is Northern Adirondack Central School District. The school district ID is 3621260.

Name	Title	Tenure	Contact	Address
<b>James Knight, Jr.</b>	Superintendent of Schools at NACSD	Employee, hired 2019 until resignation or termination	518-594-3962 ext. 8, jknight@nacs1.org	P.O. Box 164, 5586 State Rt. 11 Ellenburg Depot, NY 12935
<b>Steven Bartlemus</b>	NASD School Board President	Elected 5 years – End term, 2028	518-594-3962	5572 Route 11, Ellenburg Depot, NY 12935
<b>Phalon Miner</b>	NASD School Board Member	Elected 5 years – End term, 2025	518-594-3962	5572 Route 11, Ellenburg Depot, NY 12935

Name	Title	Tenure	Contact	Address
<b>Richard Moore</b>	NASD School Board Member	Elected 5 years – End term, 2027	518-594-3962	5572 Route 11, Ellenburg Depot, NY 12935
<b>Mark Reif</b>	NASD School Board Member	Elected 5 years – End term, 2025	518-594-3962	5572 Route 11, Ellenburg Depot, NY 12935
<b>Amanda Smith</b>	NASD School Board Member	Elected 5 years – End term, 2026	518-594-3962	5572 Route 11, Ellenburg Depot, NY 12935

## Locally Elected Officials

Name	Title	Tenure	Contact	Address
<b>Daniel LaClair</b>	Clinton Town Supervisor	Elected 2 years. End Date 12/31/2025	<a href="mailto:dlaclairtownofclinton@gmail.com">dlaclairtownofclinton@gmail.com</a> 518-497-6133	23 Smith St, Churubusco, NY 12923
<b>Tammy Bell-Martin</b>	Clinton Town Clerk	Elected 2 years. End Date: 12/31/2025	<a href="mailto:townclerkofclinton@gmail.com">townclerkofclinton@gmail.com</a>	732 Frontier Rd, Churubusco
<b>Patrick LaClair</b>	Clinton Town Council Member	Elected 4 years. End Date 12/31/2025	<a href="mailto:kregotownofclinton@gmail.com">kregotownofclinton@gmail.com</a>	23 Smith St, Churubusco, NY 12923
<b>Daniel W. McComb</b>	Clinton Town Council Member	Elected 4 years. End Date 12/31/2027	<a href="mailto:kregotownofclinton@gmail.com">kregotownofclinton@gmail.com</a>	23 Smith St, Churubusco, NY 12923
<b>Kenneth J. Patnode</b>	Clinton Town Council Member	Elected 4 years. End Date 12/31/2027	<a href="mailto:kregotownofclinton@gmail.com">kregotownofclinton@gmail.com</a>	23 Smith St, Churubusco, NY 12923
<b>Francis (Jake) Helm, Jr.</b>	Clinton Town Council Member	Elected 4 years. End Date 12/31/2025	<a href="mailto:kregotownofclinton@gmail.com">kregotownofclinton@gmail.com</a>	23 Smith St, Churubusco, NY 12923
<b>Cindy Helm</b>	Clinton Tax Collector	Elected 2 years. End Date 12/31/2025	<a href="mailto:chelmtaxcollector@gmail.com">chelmtaxcollector@gmail.com</a> 518-497-3480	7173 State Route 11
<b>Mike Perreault</b>	Clinton Superintendent of Highways	Elected 4 years. End Date 12/31/2025	<a href="mailto:mikeclintonhwy@gmail.com">mikeclintonhwy@gmail.com</a> 518-497-6296	576 State Route 189
<b>The Honorable Francis J. Peryea</b>	Clinton County Legislature Area 2 Representative	Elected- 3 years. Term expires. 12/31/2025	518- 493-2393 518-275-9249	4235 Military Turnpike Altona, NY 12910
<b>John Zurlo</b>	Clinton County Clerk	Elected - 4 years. Term expires. 12/31/2027	518-565-4700	Clinton County Government Center 137 Margaret Street Plattsburgh, NY 12901

## Clinton County Officials

Name	Title	Tenure	Contact	Address
<b>Andrew J. Wylie.</b>	Clinton County Attorney	Appointed – 4 years Term expires 12/31/2025	518-561-4400 <a href="mailto:jkelleher@staffordowens.com">jkelleher@staffordowens.com</a>	One Cumberland Avenue Plattsburgh, NY 12901
<b>Shannon Thayer</b>	Clinton County Director of Planning/ GIS Coordinator	Appointed. Term is at the pleasure of the County Board of Supervisors.	518-565-4711 <a href="mailto:planning@clintoncountygov.com">planning@clintoncountygov.com</a>	First Floor, Old Surrogate Building Clinton County Government Center 135 Margaret Street, Suite 124 Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Name	Title	Tenure	Contact	Address
Luke Cutter	Clinton County Planning Technician	Unknown	518--565-4711 <a href="mailto:planning@clintoncountygov.com">planning@clintoncountygov.com</a>	First Floor, Old Surrogate Building Clinton County Government Center 135 Margaret Street, Suite 124 Plattsburgh, NY 12901
Molly Ryan	Clinton County Industrial Development Agency Executive Director	Unknown	518-565-4627 <a href="mailto:molly.ryan@clintoncountygov.com">molly.ryan@clintoncountygov.com</a> <a href="mailto:infoatidas@gmail.com">infoatidas@gmail.com</a>	137 Margaret Street, Suite 208 Plattsburgh, NY 12901
Trent Trahan	Clinton County Industrial Development Agency Board Chair	Appointed for an indefinite term.	518-565-4600 <a href="mailto:ida@clintoncountygov.com">ida@clintoncountygov.com</a>	137 Margaret Street, Suite 209 Plattsburgh, NY 12901 USA
Terry Cayea	Chair, Clinton Wind Board	Unknown	<a href="mailto:caypeg@yahoo.com">caypeg@yahoo.com</a> 518-594-7071	6111 Route 11, Ellenburg Center, NY, 12934

## Permitting & Regulatory Agencies and Representatives

Permitting Agencies and associated Agency Representatives who are expected to take part or have an interest in the progression of the Bid Facility are listed below.

Department	Contact	Address/POC
United States Fish and Wildlife (USFWS)	607-753-9334	New York Field Office 3817 Luker Road Cortland, NY 13045
United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)	518-266-6360	Upstate Regulatory Field Office ATTN: CENAN-OP-RU, Bldg.10, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor North 1 Buffington Street, Watervliet Arsenal Watervliet, NY 12189
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) - Division of Water Bureau of Water Permits	518-402-8233 <a href="mailto:DOWinformation@dec.ny.gov">DOWinformation@dec.ny.gov</a> Contact for Bureau of Water Permits, Toni Cioffi: 518 402-8109 <a href="mailto:Toni.cioffi@dec.ny.gov">Toni.cioffi@dec.ny.gov</a>	Toni Cioffi 625 Broadway, 4th Floor Albany, NY 12233
NYSDEC- Region 5 Wildlife	518-897-1291 <a href="mailto:Info.R5@dec.ny.gov">Info.R5@dec.ny.gov</a>	1115 State Route 86 P.O. Box 296 Ray Brook, NY 12977-0296 Andrea Chaloux Environmental Review Specialist 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233
NYSDEC - Natural Heritage Program	518-402-8935 518-402-8927 <a href="mailto:achaloux@esf.edu">achaloux@esf.edu</a>	Andrea Chaloux Environmental Review Specialist 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)	518-402-9188 <a href="mailto:Sita.crouse@dec.ny.gov">Sita.crouse@dec.ny.gov</a>	Basil Seggos, Commissioner Central Office 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233
NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets	518-457-6468 <a href="mailto:Tara.wells@agriculture.ny.gov">Tara.wells@agriculture.ny.gov</a>	Richard A. Ball, Commissioner 10B Airline Drive Albany, NY 12235
NYS Department of Health Mary T. Bassett, Commissioner	518-473-4632 <a href="mailto:William.sacks@health.ny.gov">William.sacks@health.ny.gov</a>	Division of Legal Affairs 2468 Corning Tower Albany, NY 12237

Department	Contact	Address/POC
<b>NYS Department of Public Service</b> Rory M. Christian, Chair & CEO ATTN: Noreena Chaudari, Assistant Counsel	518-486-1966 <a href="mailto:Noreena.chaudari@dps.ny.gov">Noreena.chaudari@dps.ny.gov</a>	Empire State Plaza Agency Building 3 Albany, NY 12223-1350
<b>New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP)</b>	518-268-2187 <a href="mailto:Derek.Rhode@parks.ny.gov">Derek.Rhode@parks.ny.gov</a>	Derek Rhode P.O. Box 189 Waterford, NY 12188
<b>State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)</b> Office of Renewable Energy Siting ATTN: Application Review	518-473-4590  <a href="mailto:general@ores.ny.gov">general@ores.ny.gov</a>	c/o OGS Mailroom Empire State Plaza 240 State Street P-1 South, J Dock Albany, NY 12242
<b>County Department of Real Property Taxes Office</b> Clinton County Government Center	518-565-4760	137 Margaret Street, Suite 210 Plattsburgh, NY 12901
<b>Code Enforcement Officer</b>	518-353-3326	Brenda Perreault 1329 Clinton Mills Road Churubusco, NY 12923
<b>County Department of Real Property Taxes Office</b> Clinton County Government Center	518-565-4760 <a href="http://www.clintoncountygov.com/user/67/contact">http://www.clintoncountygov.com/user/67/contact</a>	Tammy Lacey Property Office 137 Margaret Street, Suite 201 Plattsburgh, Ny 12901

## Emergency Responders

Fire departments, emergency responders and police or sheriff departments serving in the Bid Facility area were identified by review of county tax maps and online research and are listed below.

Department	Address	Phone
<b>Churubusco Fire Department</b>	Churubusco Vol. Fire Department 1301 Clinton Mills Road Churubusco, NY 12923	518-497-6623
<b>State Troopers Troop Commander</b>	Major Ruben A. Oliver 1097 NYS Route 86, Box 100 Ray Brook, NY 12977-0100	518-897-2000
<b>Clinton County Sheriff's Office</b>	25 McCarthy Drive Plattsburgh, NY, 12901	518-565-4340

## State Officials

Name	Title and Office	Tenure	Contact	Address
<b>The Honorable Kathy Hochul</b>	Governor of New York State	Appointed August 2021 to fill vacated seat. Elected November 2022 for term ending 12/31/2026.	Office Phone: (518) 474-8390	NY State Capitol Building State St. and Washington Ave. Albany, NY 12224
<b>The Honorable Antonio Delgado</b>	New York State Lieutenant Governor	Appointed May 2022 to fill vacated seat. Elected November 2022 for term ending 12/31/2026.	Office Phone: (518) 474-8390	NY State Capitol Building State St. and Washington Ave. Albany, NY 12224

Name	Title and Office	Tenure	Contact	Address
<b>Thomas P. Dinapoli</b>	New York State Comptroller	Elected 4 years. Re-elected November 2022 for term ending 12/31/2026.	NYC Office: (212) 383-1600  Albany Office: (518) 474-4044	NYC Office: 59 Maiden Ln. New York, NY 10038  Albany Office: 110 State St. Albany, NY 12236
<b>Letitia James</b>	New York Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General	Elected 4 years. Re-elected November 2022 for term ending 12/31/2026.	General Helpline: (800) 771-7755	NY State Capitol Building State St. and Washington Ave. Albany, NY 12224
<b>Daniel G Stec</b>	Senator, New York State Senate District 45	District Office: (518) 743-0968  Albany Office: (518) 455-2811	District Office: 5 Warren St., Suite 3, Glens Falls, NY 12801  Albany Office: Legislative Office Building 188 State St., Room 408, Albany, NY 12247	2-years, re-elected November 2022 for term ending 12/31/2024
<b>Billy Jones</b>	Assemblymember, New York State District 115	District Office: (518)562-1986  Albany Office: (518)455-5943	District Office 202 U.S. Oval Plattsburgh, NY 12903	2-years, re-elected November 2022 for term ending 12/31/2024

## Local Libraries

Local libraries serving parcels in the Bid Facility Area were identified by review of county tax maps and online research and are listed below. Local libraries were provided Bid Facility notices (application information), which they make accessible to the broader community.

Name	Address	Contact
<b>Clinton Essex Franklin Library System</b> Steve Kenworthy, Director	33 Oak St, Plattsburgh, NY 12901	518- 563-5190 <a href="mailto:esamfl@gmail.com">esamfl@gmail.com</a>

## Outreach Efforts & Strategies

The Proposer began conducting community engagement activities in November 2021 and will continue these activities throughout the development, first decommissioning, construction and post-repower operations phases. To date the Proposer has hosted one public engagement event; a community meeting. The AES office serving the Altona, Ellenburg, Chateaugay and Clinton Windparks is located in Churubusco, NY where twenty-nine full-time staff are employed. Positions include but are not limited to: Wind turbine technicians, Health and Safety Technical Services, Engineering, Field Services Planner/Scheduler, Strategic Sourcing, and Operations and Maintenance.

## Permit Application Status

The Bid Facility is subject to the Article VIII permitting process.

## Description of Stakeholder List

The stakeholder list includes a variety of individuals and parties with interest in the Bid Facility. These stakeholders are described and listed in Section 1 of this document. A summary description of the stakeholder list is included below.

### Community Members

Community members include the participating landowners, Bid Facility, adjacent landowners, and other residents/businesses within 5-mile radius of the boundaries of the Bid Facility Area. Stakeholders also include anyone who reaches out to the Proposer and has an interest in the progression of the Bid Facility.

### Local Agencies

Local affected agencies are also stakeholders. The Proposer has been in contact with local agencies, including the Town of Clinton, NYS officials, the Northern Adirondack Central School District, local first responders and fire departments, adjacent municipalities, utility providers, and local interest groups. The Proposer has met with the local officials to introduce themselves, discuss the transition of ownership, and the Bid Facility repowering plans.

In addition to local consultation efforts, the Proposer has consulted with state agencies on several occasions during the pre-application process, including ORES; NYSDEC; New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (NYSDAM); and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP).

The Proposer continues to identify and collaborate with key local stakeholder groups including the Northern Adirondack Central School District. Should other key stakeholder groups come to our attention, the Proposer will initiate outreach and engagement with them and add them to our stakeholder list.

## Methods of Communication

The Proposer utilizes a variety of communication channels to disseminate information about the Bid Facility. These include: the Bid Facility website, mailed notifications, and notices in local papers. Stakeholders are notified in accordance with Article VIII regulations.

Updates will continue to be shared on the Bid Facility website throughout the repowering process. Community meeting materials, such as slide presentations, are also made available on the Bid Facility website. When stakeholders contact the Bid Facility Repower team via phone, the Proposer tries to respond with a return phone call within a minimum of two business days.

In the table below is a summary of the Proposer’s primary channels of communication. Please see Section 9 of this document for a comprehensive list of contact information that stakeholders can use to contact the Proposer to share feedback. The Proposer looks forward to continuing communication and public involvement throughout the repowering process.

<b>Bid Facility Website</b>	<a href="#">Clinton Wind   AES</a>
<b>Bid Facility Email</b>	<a href="mailto:clintonwind@aes.com">clintonwind@aes.com</a>
<b>Local AES Office Phone Number</b>	518-497-0818
<b>Local AES Office Address</b>	23 Lost Nation Road Churubusco, NY 12923 United States

## Outreach Efforts – Pre-Award & Development

In addition to regular communication with local officials in the host communities, the Proposer has conducted community engagement and outreach events for the Bid Facility. Some of these outreach efforts are described below.

Date	Community and Stakeholder Engagement Event	Location
Dec 6, 2022	Clinton & Ellenburg Wind Community meeting (1-3pm)	Rainbow Wedding and Banquet Hall 47 Woods Falls Rd. Altona NY, 12910
Dec 6, 2022	Clinton & Ellenburg Wind Community meeting (5-7 pm)	Rainbow Wedding and Banquet Hall 47 Woods Falls Rd. Altona NY, 12910

### Community Engagement Event Details

Community meetings offer opportunities for the Proposer to meet with stakeholders. The purpose of these events are to introduce AES and the Bid Facility to the host community, to inform the community about the repowering process and next steps, and to inform the community about how to get involved. The Proposer makes a thorough effort to notify stakeholders and encourage attendance and participation.

#### *Clinton and Ellenburg Wind Community Meeting – December 6, 2022*

- Displayed on posterboards throughout the room were project overview including but not limited to “Clinton Repower,” “Retrofitting Process,” “about AES.” AES representatives and subject matter experts were available to answer questions at each display board.
- Other Bid Facility overview topics included timeline, specs, relevant maps, community benefits and Bid Facility contact information.

### Notification of Community Engagement Events

The Proposer will notify stakeholders about community engagement events at least 14 days prior to the event. Notifications will also be posted on the Bid Facility website and local newspapers at a minimum two weeks before the event.

The following service list was utilized to inform local publications in the Clinton community of the Bid Facility Community Meetings held on December 6, 2022, from 1-3pm and 5-7pm.

NAME & ADDRESS	NUMBER OF COPIES SENT BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL OR ELECTRONIC SERVICE
Office of Renewable Energy Siting Houtan Moaveni, Executive Director ATTN: Application Review c/o OGS Mailroom Empire State Plaza 240 State Street P-1 South, J Dock Albany, NY 12242	1 PAPER COPY & 1 ELECTRONIC COPY <a href="mailto:general@ores.ny.gov">general@ores.ny.gov</a>
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Basil Seggos, Commissioner ATTN: Sita Crouse, Senior Attorney CENTRAL OFFICE 625 Broadway Albany, NY 12233	1 PAPER COPY & 1 ELECTRONIC COPY <a href="mailto:Sita.crouse@dec.ny.gov">Sita.crouse@dec.ny.gov</a>
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation REGION 5 Joseph Zalewski, Regional Director ATTN: Erin Burns, Region 5 Permit Administrator PO Box 296 Ray Brook, NY 12977-0296	1 ELECTRONIC COPY. <a href="mailto:dep.r5@dec.ny.gov">dep.r5@dec.ny.gov</a>
New York State Department of Public Service Rory M. Christian, Chair & CEO ATTN: Jason Zehr, Chief OEGW Environmental Certification and Compliance Section Empire State Plaza Agency Building 3 Albany, NY 12223-1350	1 PAPER COPY & 1 ELECTRONIC COPY. <a href="mailto:jason.zehr@dps.ny.gov">jason.zehr@dps.ny.gov</a>
CLINTON COUNTY, NEW YORK ATTN: Michael E. Zurlo, County Administrator Clinton County Government Center 137 Margaret Street, Suite 208 Plattsburgh, NY 12901	1 PAPER COPY & 1 ELECTRONIC COPY. <a href="mailto:Mike.zurlo@clintoncountygov.com">Mike.zurlo@clintoncountygov.com</a>
TOWN OF CLINTON ATTN: Daniel LaClair, Town Supervisor 23 Smith Street Churubusco, NY 12923	1 PAPER COPY & 1 ELECTRONIC COPY. <a href="mailto:dlaclairtownofclinton@gmail.com">dlaclairtownofclinton@gmail.com</a>
CLINTON WIND BOARD ATTN: Terry Cayea 23 Smith St, Churubusco, NY 12923	1 PAPER COPY
New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Richard A. Ball, Commissioner ATTN: Tara Wells, Senior Attorney 10B Airline Drive Albany, NY 12235	1 ELECTRONIC COPY. <a href="mailto:Tara.wells@agriculture.ny.gov">Tara.wells@agriculture.ny.gov</a>

## Outreach Strategies – Decommissioning and Construction

Public involvement and community outreach will continue as necessary on an ongoing basis during the repower phase of the Bid Facility’s life.

The Proposer will leverage its existing Complaint Resolution Process developed as part of the current Windpark HCA, and if necessary, will develop a supplementary Complaint Management Plan prior to the construction phase. At a minimum, the Complaint Management Plan shall describe the following:

- Methods for registering a complaint, which shall include a phone number, email address, mailing address, and a form to report complaints.
- Notification to the public of the complaint procedures.
- Process for responding to and resolving complaints in a consistent, timely, and respectful manner.
- Logging and tracking of all complaints received and resolutions achieved, with records of the following for each complaint containing:
  - o The name and contact information of the person filing the complaint.

- o Location and owner of the property where the complaint originated.
- o Date and time of the underlying event causing the complaint.
- o Description of the complaint; and
- o Current status and description of measures taken to resolve complaints.
- Reporting to the Office and the NYSDPS any complaints not resolved within 30 days of receipt.
- Mediating complaints not resolved within 60 days; and
- Providing annual reports of complaint resolution tracking to the Office staff and NYSDPS staff, which shall also be filed with the Executive Director of the Office and Secretary of the NYSDPS.

Through these engagement tactics, the Proposer will ensure that stakeholders have appropriate recourse to learn and share feedback and concerns about the Bid Facility’s repower phase.

## Outreach Strategies – Operation

The Proposer will make every effort to keep the community informed about the Bid Facility throughout all phases. During post-repower operation, as during current operation, there is signage posted at both the Bid Facility Site and local office with Bid Facility contact information. Signage includes specific instructions on responding to an emergency.

The Proposer will continue to engage with the local community in appropriate and meaningful ways. Throughout the Operating Phase, as during all phases prior, the Proposer is committed to being accessible to the community and all stakeholders. In particular, the Proposer will remain accessible at the local AES office serving the Altona, Chateaugay, Clinton and Ellenburg offices located in Clinton County.

## Climate Act Goals & Disadvantaged Communities

The Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act) requires the state to invest or direct resources in a manner designed to ensure that Disadvantaged Communities to receive at least 35 percent, with the goal of 40 percent, of overall benefits of spending on:

- Clean energy and energy efficiency programs
- Projects or investments in the areas of housing, workforce development, pollution reduction, low-income energy assistance, energy, transportation, and economic development.

## Social Impact Program

To support host communities during the development and construction of our renewable energy projects, including the Bid Facility AES launched its Social Impact Program in New York State in 2021.

Through the Social Impact Program, the AES team collaborates with community leaders from government, business, education, social services, and residents to identify opportunities where AES can provide financial and other types of support to high-impact initiatives, programs and institutions that enjoy broad support in the community. AES has developed these four focus pillars from the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals:

1. Partnering for access to Safe, Efficient, and Affordable Energy and Basic Services
2. Partnering for Inclusive Economic Growth & Education
3. Partnering for the Environment
4. Partnering for Community Resilience

Within these Focus Pillars, our Social Impact program strives to create partnerships that align with AES' purpose and values while strengthening our investment in community led initiatives that meet the targets set forth by the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and American Clean Power's Energy Transition for All initiative.

These goals closely align with the Climate Act's goals for Disadvantaged Communities.

## AES Social Impact Spending for, in, or near Disadvantaged Communities

Per the Climate Justice Working Group Draft Criteria 15 percent of residents in the North Country live in a Disadvantaged Community, including the City of Plattsburgh. AES understands the need for investing in workforce development and through our Social Impact program, we have invested in workforce development in three Disadvantaged Communities through partnerships with:

- Franklin Essex Hamilton Board of Cooperative Education Services (FEH BOCES) (2022)
- Genesee Community College, Solar Electrical Technician Certificate Program (2021)
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 910 Apprenticeship Program (2021)

## Regional Workforce Development

In addition to AES' financial commitments for Workforce Development in the North Country and Disadvantaged Communities, AES has been invited to join the North Country Workforce Development Board based in Plattsburgh and the Electrical Trades Consultant Committee of the Franklin-Essex-Hamilton BOCES, based in the Town of Malone, Franklin County.

### Clean Energy Career Fairs

AES also recognizes the importance of sponsoring and attending Career and Job Fairs in Disadvantaged Communities and as such intends to continue participation in such events in 2024.

## STEM Commitments

Equally important to workforce development partnerships at the high school and college level are early education investments in STEM curriculum. To that end, AES is a founding member of the Discovery Education STEM Careers Coalition. This coalition aims to expand the future STEM workforce by creating equitable opportunities for a diverse population of students and supports exposure to STEM careers and opportunities through the development of content and resources.

## AES Social Impact Commitment to Disadvantaged Communities

During the development and construction of our 2+ GW utility scale renewable energy portfolio, including Clinton Wind repower, AES intends to continue the Social Impact funding during development and construction. This funding will be dispersed in host communities, including the Town of Clinton, and across the state.

Given AES' own commitment to a just transition and the goals of the Climate Act, AES is committed to ensuring Social Impact spending in New York directly benefits disadvantaged communities.

On March 27, 2023, the New York State Climate Justice Working Group finalized the criteria for Disadvantaged Communities. AES will use the appropriate criteria and guidance from New York State when investing social impact funding in designated Disadvantaged Communities.

## Plans for Public Engagement

Community outreach will continue throughout the operations/pre-award and development, first decommissioning, construction, and post-repower operation phases of the Bid Facility's life. The Proposer has a robust plan to provide the community with continuing access to Bid Facility representatives to make sure there are plenty of opportunities for community input.

There is a designated Bid Facility email address and New York toll-free phone number monitored Monday-Friday, 9 AM – 5 PM by Bid Facility representatives, weekly virtual office hours, and a local AES office and phone number. The local AES office is open weekly Monday-Friday, 8 AM – 4 PM, and the local office phone number is monitored during these same hours. This information is available on the Bid Facility website, and it is listed in Section 9.1 of this Community Engagement Plan. The Bid Facility's website is also updated with latest information and Bid Facility schedules so that the community has access to them.

As described in detail within Section 2 of this Plan, the Proposer utilizes effective methods of outreach and communication to notify all stakeholders and ensure that public engagement events are widely attended.

## Town Council Meetings

Presentations are arranged for the Clinton Wind Board, Town Council and Town Planning Board meetings where Bid Facility representatives discuss Bid Facility details and provide details of the repower process. The Proposer provides details on the benefits of the Bid Facility and offers participants an opportunity to have their questions and concerns addressed.

## Notifications

Throughout the development, construction, and operation of the Bid Facility, the Applicant will make every effort to attend the Town Board meetings when town officials request it

The Proposer will notify members of the stakeholder list of the proposed Bid Facility of community events by mailing, asking the town to post a notice on their town website and posting information on the Bid Facility website. In

The Proposer will comply with permitting regulations concerning community notifications.

## Direct Community Benefits

As described in Section 3 of this document, AES launched its Social Impact Program in New York State in 2021. This program is designed to support host communities during the development and construction of our renewable energy projects, including the Bid Facility.

You can learn more about the importance of AES to the communities where we are developing and operating projects [in this video](#).

## Local Partnerships and Memberships

In addition to our partnership with the FEH BOCES in Malone, AES' presence in the North Country has led to partnerships with school districts, fire districts and not-for-profit organizations.

The Proposer will also provide electric utility bill credits for the first 10 years of the Bid Facility's operation to the utility customers in the Town of Clinton. The credits can total up to \$108,000 annually, based on \$1000 per MW of capacity. Over the 10-year period, a total of \$1,080,000 in credits could be given.

During the repowering process of the Bid Facility, the Proposer will continue Social Impact funding in these host communities and region, in the critical areas of clean energy and energy efficiency programs, investments in the areas of housing, workforce development, pollution reduction, low-income energy assistance, energy, transportation, and economic development.

## Community Economic Benefits

The Bid Facility has provided economic benefit to the local taxing jurisdictions in the form of Payments In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT) and Host Community Agreements (HCAs) since the Bid Facility operation date. The Proposer will continue to provide economic benefits through the repower timeline. The Proposer expects to execute a PILOT and a Host Community agreement(s), which will require annual payments.

Payments will also be made in association with easement agreements executed to host Bid Facility components.

## Balancing Stakeholder Interests

The Bid Facility's success depends on continuing our strong relationship with the Clinton Wind Board, the Town Board and the local community. The Proposer has demonstrated a commitment to ensuring the community is aware of and participates in the development, repower, and commercialization of the Bid Facility, and will continue to do so.

The Proposer's desire is to be sensitive to local concerns throughout the realization of the Bid Facility, resulting in a project that the community is proud of.

The Proposer will continue to work in cooperation with the community throughout the repower process. Overall, the local community is accepting of the existing Clinton Windpark, and recognizes local economic benefits and other general benefits that the Bid Facility will bring well into the future.

## Building Stakeholder Support

The Bid Facility's success depends on continuing the strong relationship with Clinton Town Board the Proposer has demonstrated a commitment to ensuring the community is aware of and participates in its proposed repower plans for the Bid Facility and will continue to do so. The Proposer's desire is to be sensitive to local concerns throughout the realization of the Bid Facility, resulting in an end product that the community is proud of.

## Response to Community Concerns

The Proposer has worked in cooperation with the community throughout the repowering of the Bid Facility. The Proposer takes into consideration concerns raised by the community and has incorporated solutions to respond accordingly. Please see examples listed below.

- General concerns about wind development (flicker impacts, sound impacts, visual impacts)
  - The Proposer has facilitated one-on-one conversations with concerned stakeholders and has communicated that the repowered Clinton Windpark is anticipated to have similar noise sound, flicker, and visual impacts as the current operating Bid Facility. Increased Perceived impact or burdens related to flicker, noise sound and visual impacts is not anticipated post-repower, but the Proposer will address future concerns will be addressed by the Proposer through the development and permitting process. during the post-repower operating phase as needed and on a one-on-one basis.
- Preservation of rural landscape and minimizing impacts on the local community
  - The Proposer is cognizant that preserving the current landscape is a main concern and priority for many members of the local community. To this end, the Proposer aims to mitigate and minimize impacts related to the Bid Facility repower and aims to enable the Bid Facility to continue operating post-repower the same way it has for the past 15 years. The Proposer believes that realization of the repower will enable preservation of the local landscape and that the Bid Facility will have no new impacts on the community. The Bid Facility Area will be preserved for up to an additional 30 years of operation, and economic benefits to the local community will be able to continue via extended PILOT and HCA agreements.
- Concerns about future Windpark economic benefits
  - During the community meetings community members expressed the significant positive impact that Windpark HCA and PILOT payments have had on the community from 2008 – present. These community members have stated that they want these payments to continue and have expressed concern about the lost economic benefits to the community if

the Windpark is not repowered. The Proposer has communicated with community members and local agencies that our desire is to see the life of the Clinton Windpark extended through realization of the Bid Facility, and with it, the economic benefits that have been experienced by the community for the past 15 years. Receipt of a NYSERDA Tier 1 Bid and realization of the Bid Facility are the mechanisms by which current Windpark economic benefits will be able to continue.

Our community engagement philosophy is to create a solid foundation at the local level and build additional layers of support at the regional and state levels. The Proposer will continue this outreach and is committed to respond respectfully to community feedback and concerns. The Proposer is committed to addressing instances of concern or opposition by listening, providing factual and thorough resources, acknowledging our stakeholders' concerns, and taking mitigatory or responsive action where possible to address concerns. The Proposer will continue this stakeholder outreach throughout the repower process and is committed to continuing to respond respectfully to community feedback and concerns.

## Mitigating Concerns from Stakeholders

The Proposer commits to understanding the local community and landowners' concerns with the Bid Facility and aid in mitigation where required or appropriate. The Proposer has a long history of working with participating and non-participating landowners of the Bid Facility site and is committed to collaborating with individual stakeholders to mitigate Bid Facility-related concerns and impacts when possible.

In a typical process, any person impacted by the Bid Facility can contact the Bid Facility team through the avenues described in Section 2 of this document: Bid Facility phone lines, Bid Facility email, Bid Facility website and local or state office. Public concerns are taken seriously, and a Bid Facility representative will respectfully communicate with the stakeholder to identify the source of their concern as well as any potential mitigation that may be required. If warranted, the Proposer will attend either virtual or in-person one-on-one meetings with the stakeholder with the goal of achieving a mutual agreement.

The Proposer will coordinate closely with the many teams involved in the Bid Facility - Operations, Repower Development, Asset Management, and Stakeholder Relations - to address/mitigate the identified issue(s). The Proposer is committed to being accessible and ensuring stakeholders receive information and resolutions to concerns as quickly as possible. Some of the concerns that have been raised by the host community and how AES has responded to them are listed in Section 7 of this document. The Proposer will continue to solicit feedback and input throughout all Bid Facility phases.

The Proposer is also compiling a comprehensive Wind Repower FAQ document which will be made available on the Bid Facility website. Please see Section 9 of this document for more information.

## Feedback Solicitation

The Community Engagement Plan has been designed to solicit feedback and input from stakeholders during the Bid Facility repower development process. The Proposer described explicit methods through which feedback is being solicited and incorporated into ongoing Bid

Facility operation and development and this can be found in Sections 2 and 4 of this document.

In summary, the Proposer:

- Organizes community meetings.
- Solicits input on the Bid Facility website.
- Monitors the Bid Facility email Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm

Feedback forms are distributed by the Proposer at community engagement events (e.g., community meetings, landowner dinners). These forms are designed to solicit feedback about the effectiveness of the meeting and information provided. These feedback forms also provide an additional way for stakeholders to share thoughts, questions, and concerns about the Bid Facility.

## Contact Information

<b>Bid Facility Website</b>	<a href="#">Clinton Wind   AES</a>
<b>Bid Facility Email</b>	<a href="mailto:clintonwind@aes.com">clintonwind@aes.com</a>
<b>Local AES Office Phone Number</b>	518-497-0818
<b>Local AES Office Address</b>	23 Lost Nation Road Churubusco, NY 12923 United States
<b>AES New York Toll Free Number</b>	(866) 757-7697 Hours: Mondays 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM ET and Thursdays 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM ET
<b>NYC Office Address</b>	292 Madison Ave 15 <sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10017

Wherever there is general interest, an individual can be designated as a project stakeholder and added to the project mailing list in one of several ways:

- Visiting our website and subscribing through our “Stay Updated” section.
- Requesting via email
- Requesting via phone
- Requesting in person, at a community meeting.